Docket No.: 21713-00058-US1

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Satoshi Mihara et al.

Application No.: 10/579,768 Confirmation No.: 3575

Filed: May 18, 2006 Art Unit: 1796

For: SILANE COUPLING AGENT TREATED-SILICA AND RUBBER COMPOSITION

CONTAINING THE SAME

Examiner: Nicole M. Buje

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111 (NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sirs:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed March 19, 2009 in the above-captioned case.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.